

## Message Text

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47

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 PC-10 USIE-00 IO-14 INR-10

INRE-00 DODE-00 AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 042941

O P 161228Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8966

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAMAKO 1229

AFDROUGHT

ABIDJAN FOR REDSO

E O 11652 N A

SUBJ: MALI EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

REF: A. BAMAKO 0993; B. BAMAKO 1083; C. COTONOU 0754;

D. NIAMEY 1516

1. DURING OUR LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM ON DESIRABILITY OF TRYING A PILOT GRAIN SHIPMENT OVER COTONOU-GAO ROUTE, GOM HAS INDICATED FROM BEGINNING THAT IT COULD ILL-AFFORD TO DIVERT SCARE POL RESOURCES (EITHER TANKER TRUCKS OR PETROL) IN SUPPORT OF PILOT RUN. R&R COORDINATOR DOUKARA, IN PARTICULAR, HAS WORRIED OUT LOAD ABOUT EFFECT SUCH A DIVERSION WOULD HAVE ON HIS ALREADY FRAGILE VI REGION FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WHICH IS DESIGNED TO COVER NEEDS OF 29 WIDELY DISPERSED NOMAD CAMPS.

2. THREE WEEKS AGO, EMBASSY/BAMAKO CLEARLY REITERATED GOM'S INABILITY TO DIVERT PETROL RESOURCES DUE MALI INTERNAL REQUIREMENTS. (SEE REF A) FURTHERMORE, ON MAY 2, IN RESPONSE TO COTONOU 0674 WE INDICATED THAT DO REGO AND  
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KOFFI SHOULD PLAN TO INCLUDE TANKER TRUCKS IN CONVOY

(SEE REF B). IN ADDITION, IN BAMAKO 1042, 1176, AND 1201 WE EXPLICITLY REQUESTED CONFIRMATION THAT FUEL ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN ATTENDED TO. AS A RESULT, IT IS SOMEWHAT DISCONCERTING TO RECEIVE IMMEDIATE MESSAGE ON MAY 15 (REF C) INFORMING US THAT OCDN DOES NOT RPT NOT PLAN SEND TANKERS ALONG WITH CONVOYS. THIS INFO COMING-ON-THE-HEELS OF MAY 9 FALSE-START CAUSED BY INTRADEP ENGINEER'S POOR JUDGMENT (SEE COTONOU 0728) SUGGESTS THAT COORDINATION ON COMPLEX AND DELICATE TRANSSHIPPMENT EXPERIMENT SHOULD BE TIGHTENED UP.

3. ACTION REQUIRED:

A) IN VIEW NIAMEY'S STRATEGIC LOCATION ON PARAKOU-GAO AXIS, REQUEST THAT AID/W DESIGNATE EMBASSY/AID NIAMEY AS CENTRAL COORDINATOR FOR LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS ON COTONOU-GAO STRETCH. FURTHER REQUEST AID/W DELEGATE SUFFICIENT FISCAL AUTHORIZATION TO ENABLE ADO/NIAMEY TO UNDERTAKE WHATEVER LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS DEEMED PRUDENT AND NECESSARY SO AS TO INSURE THAT MALI GRAIN OFF-LOADED AT PARAKOU IS TRANSSHIPPED IN EFFICIENT AND ORDERLY FASHION.

B) REQUEST REDSO/ABIDJAN CABLE AID/W AND ADO/NIAMEY REGARDING MOST SUITABLE FUNDING MECHANISM TO COVER LEASE OR RENTAL COSTS IN CASE TANKER TRUCKS ARE REQUIRED AS SUGGESTED PER PARA 2 REFTEL C. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCOTRA AND OCDN NOT CLEAR FROM THIS DISTANCE AND HENCE WE ARE UNSURE REGARDING SUITABILITY OF AMENDING SOCOTRA CONTRACT TO COVER TANKER TRUCKS LEASING COSTS.

C) REQUEST ADO/NIAMEY CONFIRM INFO CONTAINED PARA 3 REFTEL D SINCE COTONOU 0754 SUGGESTS REFUELING STOP IN GAO IS REQUIRED. APPRECIATE ESTIMATE ON TRUCKS PROVIDED IN REFTEL D AND BELIEVE IT WILL SUFFICE FOR GOM PURPOSE OF CONVOY IDENTIFICATION.

D) REQUEST EMBASSY/COTONOU ASK OCDN PROVIDE SOME QUANTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO ITS FEELING THAT THERE IS PRESENTLY PLENTY OF FUEL DESTINED FOR MALI VI REGION IN OCDN SUPPLY LINE. HOW MUCH FUEL? WHAT IS OCDN GOING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRICE PER LITER? BASED ON LAST YEAR'S INTERNAL PETROL REQUIREMENTS FOR MALI VI REGION, WHAT IS ORDER-OF-MAGNITUDE PAYMENT GOM WILL HAVE TO MAKE IN ORDER MEET VI REGION PETROL NEEDS FOR NEXT FOUR MONTHS? ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL ENABLE US TO PLACE IN BETTER PERSPECTIVE GOM ATTITUDE VIS-A-VIS ALLOCATION OF ITS RESOURCES FOR PILOT RUN.

4. SUMMARY: WE ARE CONVINCED THAT U.S. PATIENT BUT  
FIRM NEGOTIATION POSTURE ON ISSUE OF  
EXPERIMENTAL GRAIN RUN WILL PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT  
BENEFITS FOR VI REGION POPULATION OVER MID-TERM.  
APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE OF CONCERNED POSTS AND WILL  
KEEP ALL ADVISED ON EVENTS THIS END.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, REFUELING, PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, AFDROUGHT, GRAINS, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION, COST ESTIMATES, NEGOTIATIONS  
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